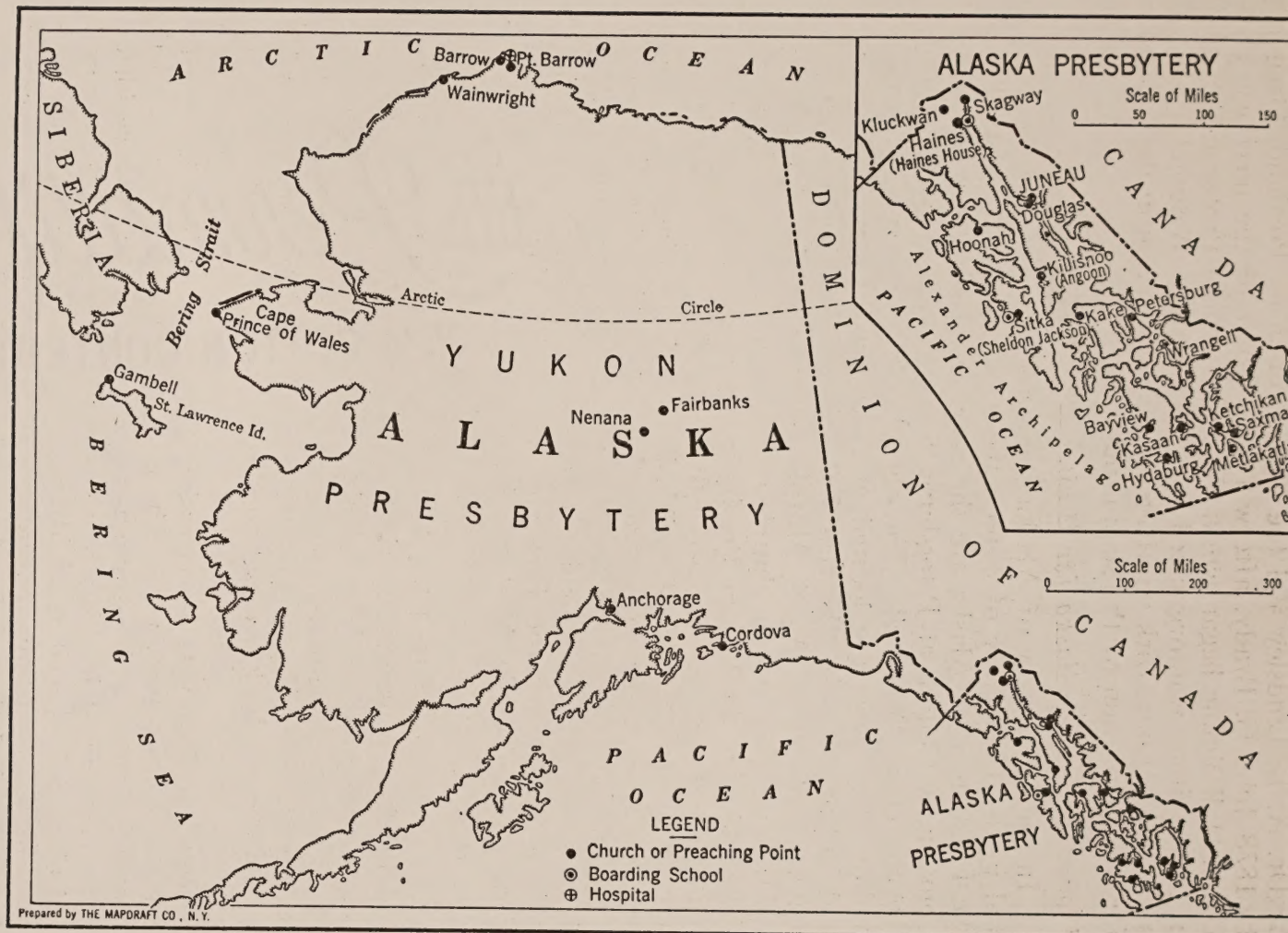

ARCTIC OCEAN
Barrow
Pt. Barrow
Wainwright
SIBERIA
Bering Strait
Cape Prince of Wales
Arctic Circle
Gambell
St. Lawrence Id.
BERING SEA
YUKON
ALASKA
PRESBYTERY
Nenana
Fairbanks
Anchorage
Cordova
PACIFIC OCEAN
DOMINION OF CANADA
ALASKA PRESBYTERY
Scale of Miles
0 50 100 150
Kluckwan
Skagway
Haines (Haines House)
JUNEAU
Douglas
Hoonah
Killisnoo (Angoon)
Alexander Archipelago
PACIFIC OCEAN
Sitka (Sheldon Jackson)
Kake
Petersburg
Wrangell
Bayview
Ketchikan
Saxman
Kasaan
Hydaburg
Metlakatla
Scale of Miles
0 100 200 300
CANADA
CANADA
ALASKA PRESBYTERY
LEGEND
Church or Preaching Point
Boarding School
Hospital
Prepared by THE MAPCRAFT CO., N.Y.

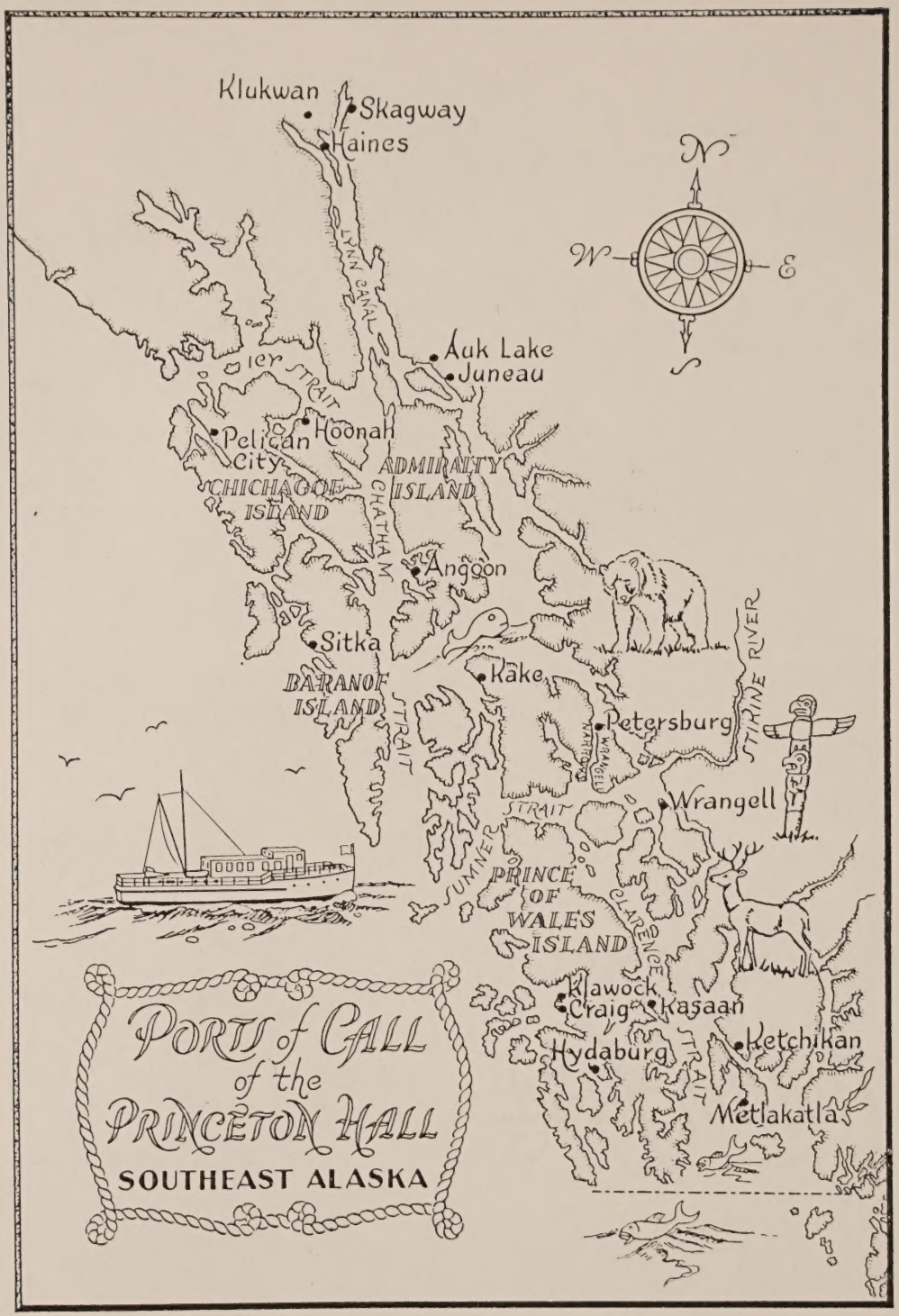
1925

General Assembly, 1925, Board of National Missions Report

PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS IN ALASKA

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A., 156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

[1937]



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[1949]

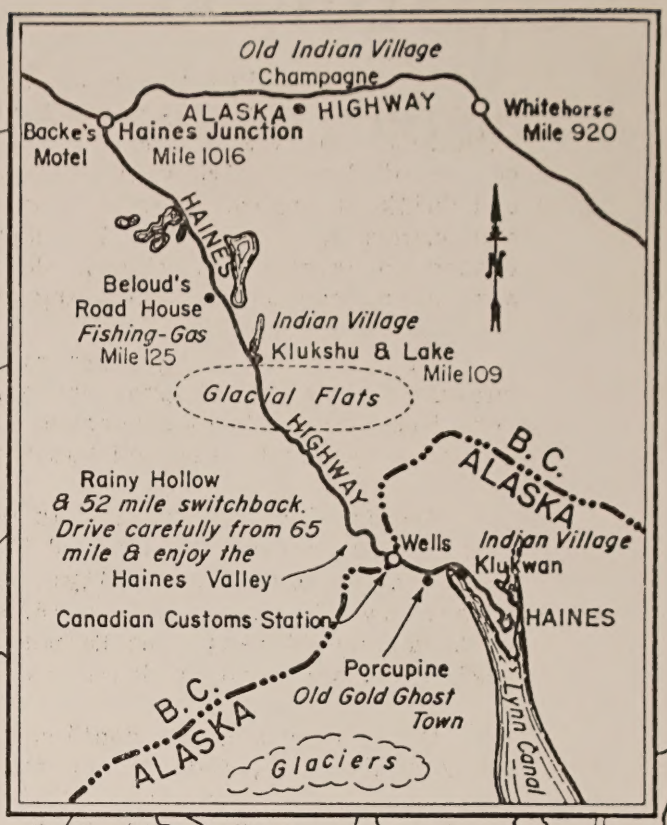
BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS
of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue New York 10, N.Y.

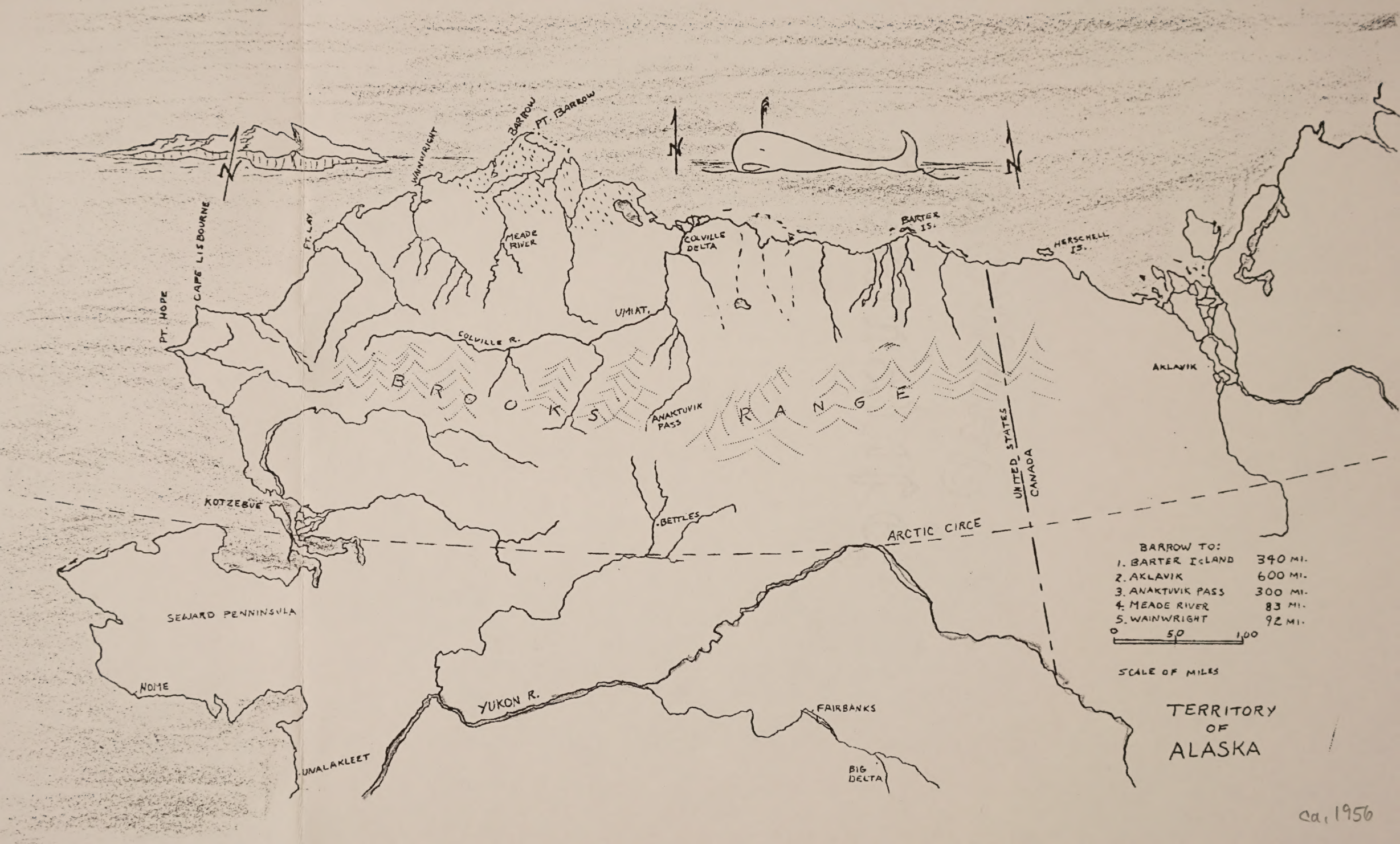
HAINES, ALASKA

1952

The "Shang-ri-la" of Alaska

ALASKA'S 159 MILE ALPINIC HIGHWAY




N
N
WAINWRIGHT
BARROW
PT. BARROW
CAPE LISBOURNE
PT. LAY
PT. HOPE
MEADE RIVER
COLVILLE DELTA
BARTER IS.
HERSCHELL IS.
UMIAT.
COLVILLE R.
BROOKS RANGE
ANAKTUVIK PASS
AKLAVIK
UNITED STATES
CANADA
KOTZEBUE
BETTLES
ARCTIC CIRCE
SEWARD PENNINSULA
NOME
YUKON R.
FAIRBANKS
UNALAKLEET
BIG DELTA
BARROW TO:
1. BARTER ISLAND 340 MI.
2. AKLAVIK 600 MI.
3. ANAKTUVIK PASS 300 MI.
4. MEADE RIVER 83 MI.
5. WAINWRIGHT 92 MI.
0 50 100
SCALE OF MILES
TERRITORY OF ALASKA

ca. 1956

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN ALASKA

ALASKA TODAY

Alaska today is beset with many acute problems. Because of her strategic position, military developments are extensive. The sudden impact of western civilization requires many adjustments for the more primitive population of the Arctic. Statehood is definitely on its way, but with privilege and monopoly still entrenched, and the question of native rights to land still unsettled, economic opportunity is limited, the cost of living is high, and the rich natural resources inaccessible. Frustration manifests itself in alcohol, gambling and prostitution.

Presbyterians have a long and honored tradition in Alaska, having started the first American Protestant work in the Territory (1877). Today Presbyterians have the largest mission program in the Panhandle, and an increasing responsibility in the Central Interior region and the Arctic Coast. There are 31 organized Presbyterian churches. Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau (Northern Light), and Sitka are self-supporting. There are 52 other preaching stations. Total church membership of over three thousand includes Indians, Eskimos, whites, Negroes, and Oriental Americans. Sunday school enrollment is over 3,500. There are interracial churches at Sitka, Wrangell, Craig, Haines, Ketchikan, Juneau, and Fairbanks. Institutions include a children's home at Haines, a junior college at Sitka, and a hospital at Palmer. There are 82 Presbyterian missionaries in Alaska.

[on back of 8/4/57 letter]

the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in ALASKA

Alaska has proved its value, and statehood is on its way.* However, the territory is more than ever today faced with problems of adjustment. Naval petroleum projects and radar stations in the north have introduced some aspects of western civilization to the Eskimos without bringing in counter balancing attitudes of philosophy. Similarly, the opening of the Alaska Highway brought in people from the outside and with them an awareness of many material improvements in modern living; but basic problems remain unchanged. Living is still high in cost. Economic opportunity is limited, with natural resources inaccessible and with the working season, in many livelihoods, confined to one season. Privileged monopolists skim the cream, while the ordinary white worker has few rights or privileges, and the Eskimo even less. Too often, frustration finds its outlet in gambling, the use of alcohol, and in prostitution. Presbyterians started the first Protestant work in the territory in 1877. Today, the Church can claim some 120 enterprises, with 125 missionaries and an interracial church membership in the thousands. The work is difficult, and in material ways unrewarding–but it claims its workers. It must go on.

*Summer, 1958

☆ *Town with one organized church* ★ *Town with two organized churches* △ *Preaching Point*
⊛ *Town with three or more organized churches* ▲ *School or other institution*
Alaska Railroad ═ *Alaska Highway and branches* ✈ *U.S. Air services*

At Barrow Point is the northernmost station of the DEW line–the line of Distant Early Warning radar stations that stretches across Canada to Baffin Island, near Greenland. An extension of the DEW line lies in a southwesterly direction along the Alaskan coast down to the Aleutian Islands.

Only 45 miles away, Russian Territory can be seen from our westernmost mission.

From Barrow, a missionary pilot operates the "Arctic Messenger," a single-motor plane equipped with skis for landing as well as wheels. Thus the Church can cross icy unpopulated wastes to reach scattered radar stations and isolated communities over a vast district.

The Alaska Highway is served at each point in Alaska by a Sunday School missionary. Tok Junction is headquarters for the mobile missionary service.

A new motorship, the "Anna Jackman" is replacing the "Princeton-Hall" as the main means of transportation for missionaries, sacraments, and many travelers between churches and institutions of the Panhandle –a region of islands, snow-capped mountains, and icy glaciers. The "Princeton-Hall" has been overhauled for shorter trips and local duties.

ARCTIC OCEAN
Barrow
Wainwright
Beachy Pt.
Barter Is.
Meade River Coal Mine
Arctic Messenger III
YUKON
Anaktuvuk Pass
U.S.S.R.
Strait
BIG DIOMEDE
LITTLE DIOMEDE
Bering
ARCTIC CIRCLE
PRESBYTERY
CANADA
Circle
Gambell
Savoonga
Nome
College
Fairbanks
Steese Hwy
University of Alaska
Eagle
Taylor
Big Delta
Johnson River
Healy
Suntrana
Summit
McKinley Pk
Broad Pass
Tanana
Tok Junction
Northway
Richardson Hwy
Curry
Wasilla
Palmer
Glenn Hwy
Alaska Highway
Whitehorse
Haines Hwy
Yukon
Kuskokwim
Eklutna
Anchorage
Whittier
Kenai Pen.
Yakutat
GULF OF ALASKA
ALASKA PRESBYTERY
DEW LINE
KODIAK
0 100 200 MILES

0 MILES 40
Skagway
Klukwan
Haines
Haines House for children is here.
Elfin Cove
Auke Bay
Pelican
Juneau
Hoonah
Douglas
The Northern Light Church is the oldest self-supporting church in the territory.
PULP
Sitka
Angoon
Home of Sheldon Jackson Junior College and radio station KSEW
Kake
First Protestant church in Alaska still standing here.
Petersburg
Hole in Wall
Wrangell
Wrangell Institute
Klawock
Craig
Kasaan
Waterfall
Hollis
Ketchikan
Hydaburg
Saxman
Metlakatla
CANADA
Area of detailed map
N

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS, UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A., 156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

[on back of 2/19/59 letter]

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN ALASKA

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KEY

- Town with one organized church
- Town with two organized churches
- Town with three organized churches
- Preaching point
- School or other institution
- Alaska Railroad
- Alaska Highway and branches

W. 1960 letter

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VOL. VI
No. 2

THE ALASKA PRESBYTERIAN

FALL
1972

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON + SYNOD OF WASHINGTON-ALASKA + PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

ECHOES FROM HISTORY

Editor's Niche

While searching for an idea for the cover of this issue of THE ALASKA PRESBYTERIAN, I came across the map showing the reindeer pasturing areas as suggested by Dr. Sheldon Jackson. In that the map of Alaska is in the process of change because of the Alaska Native Land Claims, and the Land-Use Planning Commission's recommendations for state and federal lands, it seemed the 75 year old map was beautifully simple, uncomplicated and just right for this period of flux.

LETTERS

From Dr. J. Earl Jackman, 832 Thorne Avenue, Wooster, Ohio 44691:

"Many thanks for the hard work you put into the winter issue of the Alaska Presbyterian which has just come. It is full of news and information and is very helpful to me in continuing to tell the story of our people and work in Alaska. Most of the names of people and places bring up vivid memories of my association among them over a period of 18 years . . . "

From the Reverend Alwin Gall, 915 Brown Street., Prosser, Washington 99350:

"To all our Friends in Alaska and elsewhere –

"By the goodness of the Lord I am well on my way to recovery from the stroke suffered in January. Only a few traces in hands and feet are left to be treated regularly.

"It was my privilege to be substitute-preaching again in July on three Sundays, for the first time since last year. That's progress! And I am grateful for it.

"Mrs. Gall is holding her own bravely in her bout with arthritis.

" 'Alaska' has left its indelible mark in our hearts and minds and we have no regrets. Rather, it is a constant source of joy and gratitude. Greetings to all!"

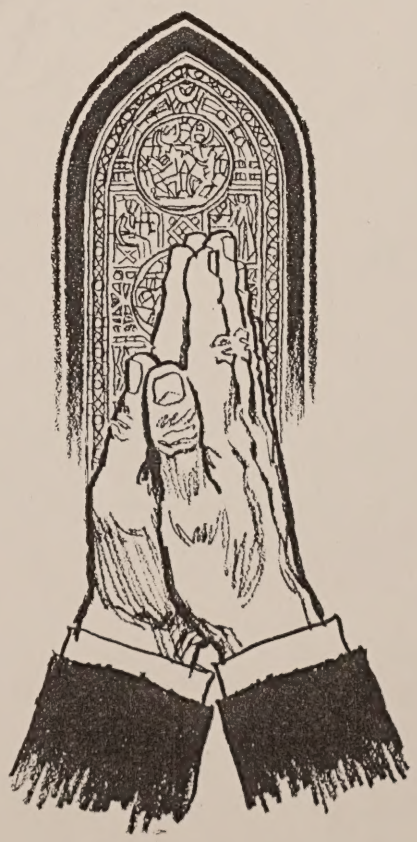
From Miss Emma M. Stauffer, 4545 Washington Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111:

" . . . This is a very good abode but after spending 27 years in Missionary work in India and the Arctic Regions of Alaska, routine-daily existence; having to be contented shut up in this great house is nice but expensive and monotonous too. I have spent my time making bed quilts and quilt-tops for local missionhouse in the city. But I am not young now and have to slow down some . . . "

From Lois Stair, Moderator of the 183rd General Assembly, 255 W. Broadway, Waukesha, Wisconsin 53186:

"How thoughtful you were to send copies of The Alaska Presbyterian. The sketch on the cover is excellent and most complimentary. The pictures and articles clearly show what fun I was having when I visited your area in January. My memories of that trip are most cherished and I do appreciate all that was done for me during my visit.

"I have asked the Rev. Samuel Simmonds of Point Barrow, who is a commissioner to this year's General Assembly, to take part with me in the opening service of Worship at the General Assembly. I do hope he can accept . . . "



FROM THE PEN OF GORDON CORBETT

This has been a very hectic summer. Many tourists and visitors have come through and have wanted information and interpretation.

Four of our churches have succeeded in calling ministers (Wainwright, Hydaburg-Craig, Hoonah and Gambell) with a fifth, Barrow, in the process of calling a man. It is anticipated the Presbytery of the Yukon will ordain Alice Green Thursday, September 13, at Trinity UPC, Anchorage. Alice will then serve the Gambell Church on St. Lawrence Island where she served many, many years ago. Ketchikan and Wrangell continue to be vacant.

The proposal to merge Alaska and the Yukon has created many ripples. The reorganization of our Synod and its budget problems is causing considerable strain and tension.

Sheldon Jackson College has had a number of problems: getting their new library funded and under construction, recruiting students, balancing their budget and seeking a new president.

The illness, now, of Betty Stratton almost seems "unfair". As a family they have surely had more than enough problems and we pray for their renewed health and strength.

Lib.

VOL. VI
No. 2

THE ALASKA PRESBYTERIAN

SHELDON JACKSON COLLEGE
ARCHIVES
SHELDON JACKSON LIBRARY
MAR 1 '73

FALL
1972

12-76

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON + SYNOD OF WASHINGTON-ALASKA + PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

ECHOES FROM HISTORY